



MEDIA RELEASE

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND INSURANCE

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HAWKS NAMED EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF ACADEMY

LONGTIME PUBLIC SAFETY EXECUTIVE TO GUIDE EXPANDED MISSION

NASHVILLE - Commissioner Paula Flowers has named veteran emergency services executive Roger Hawks as the new Executive Director of the Tennessee Fire Service and Codes Enforcement Academy.

Hawks, 48, is a fifteen-year veteran of the Rural/Metro Fire Department, a national third-party emergency, fire and security services company. Most recently, Hawks was Assistant Southern Operations Manager over contract administration, sales and operations covering six Southeastern states and managing 175 employees.

“I’m excited to have someone of Roger Hawks’ caliber to lead the Academy as it expands its mission of public safety training to include Homeland Security preparedness,” Commissioner Flowers said. “His unique combination of private-sector management skills and public safety expertise will bring the Academy to a new level of service for Tennessee’s public safety community.”

Hawks is well-known in Tennessee’s fire and emergency services community, having served for eight years on the board of directors of the Tennessee Fire Chiefs Association. During that time, the Association worked to help establish the Academy, whose state-of-the-art 300-acre campus opened in 2002 near Bell Buckle, Tennessee.

“It’s a marvelous facility and I want to develop it to its fullest potential,” said Hawks. “First we need to serve the purpose for which it was designed – to train our firefighters and codes inspectors. Then we need to make it available for others to attend after that.”

Hawks is married and has one stepson. He begins the job July 16.

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